

601 1652  
PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:

LAFFEND ET AL.

CASE NO.: CR-9715-B

SERIAL NO.: 08/849,404

GROUP ART UNIT: 1652

FILED: 22 MARCH 1998

EXAMINER: G. E. BUGAISKY

FOR: BIOCONVERSION OF A FERMENTABLE  
CARBON SOURCE TO 1,3-PROPANEDIOL  
BY A SINGLE MICROORGANISM9/c  
SJS  
4/9/98

RECEIVED

APR 02 1998

MATRIX CUSTOMER  
SERVICE CENTERAssistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated 2 January 1998,  
 please amend the above-referenced application as follows. This  
 reply is filed within the shortened statutory period.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1, 3-5, 7-19 and 32 and 33.

Please amend the claims as follows:

*C* 2. (Amended One Time) A bioconversion process to produce 1,3-propanediol comprising contacting, under suitable conditions, glycerol or dihydroxyacetone with a single microorganism having at least one gene [capable of] expressing a glycerol dehydratase enzyme, the microorganism selected from the group consisting of members of the genera *Aspergillus*, *Saccharomyces*, *Zygosaccharomyces*, *Pichia*, *Kluyveromyces*, *Candida*, *Hansenula*, *Debaryomyces*, *Mucor*, *Torulopsis*, *Methylobacter*, *Salmonella*, *Bacillus*, *Streptomyces*, and *Pseudomonas*.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: ASST. COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, ON THIS DATE.

3/26/98  
DateTammy Lane  
Tammy Lane